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Letters to the Editor

Negotiate Viet Nam's Future

To the Herald Tribune:

It was reassuring to see Walter Lippmann's conclusion that our objective in Viet Nam "is to create a balance of forces which favors and supports a negotiated settlement in Southeast Asia." Administration spokesmen have been speaking with so many conflicting voices to reporters, members of Congress, and citizens groups that one wonders whether Ho Chi Minh or Hoboken is more confused about American intentions. Perhaps the Administration should experiment with a new formula: being straightforward.

If Mr. Lippmann is correct, as we earnestly hope he is, the Administration need not fear telling the public that we intend to negotiate our way out of a bloody mess, hopefully with effective international guarantees of stability in the area. This is the only course which offers a solution. Moreover, since the Chinese will be sitting on the other side of the bargaining table, it is not too early to start discussing some "old myths and new realities."

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a Sane Nuclear Policy.
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